

I. Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

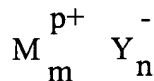
Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented): Polymerizable composition for making episulfide based resins comprising:

A) at least one episulfide compound bearing at least one episulfide and at least one functional group capable of polymerizing with episulfide groups, and

B) an effective amount of a polymerization catalyst system comprising:

- at least one salt of formula



wherein

M^{p+} is a cation selected from the group consisting of alkaline metals, alkaline earth metals, transitions metals and ammonium groups of formula NR_4^+ in which R is an alkyl radical,

Y^- is an anion such as a corresponding acid YH has a pKa fulfilling the condition $0.5 \leq pKa \leq 14$ with the proviso that when M^{p+} is an ammonium group, the catalyst system further comprises an electro-donor compound,

P is the valency of the cation,

$n = mxp$, and

- at least one tertiary amine.

2. (previously presented): Polymerizable composition according to claim 1, wherein the corresponding acid YH has a pKa fulfilling the condition $0.5 \leq pKa \leq 8$.

3. (currently amended): Polymerizable composition according to claim 1, wherein Y^- is selected from the group consisting of thiocyanate, carboxylate, thiocarboxylate, RS^- wherein R is ~~a substituted or non-substituted~~ an alkyl group or phenyl group, acetylacetonate, diketone, acetoacetic ester, malonic ester, cyanoacetic ester, and ketonitrile.

4. (original): Polymerizable composition according to claim 1, wherein the cation M^{p+} is selected from the group consisting of Li^+ , Na^+ , K^+ , Rb^+ , Mg^{2+} , Ca^{2+} , Ba^{2+} and Al^{3+} .

5. (original): Polymerizable composition according to claim 1, wherein the salt is KSCN.

6. (original): Polymerizable composition according to claim 1, wherein the salt is present in amount of 0.001 to 2.5%, based on the total weight of the polymerizable monomers present in the composition.

7. (original): Polymerizable composition according to claim 6, wherein the salt is present in an amount of 0.001 to 1% based on the total weight of the polymerizable monomers present in the composition.

8. (original): Polymerizable composition according to claim 1, wherein the tertiary amine has formula :



in which the R groups represent, independently from each other, an alkyl radical, a cycloalkyl radical or mixtures thereof.

9. (currently amended): Polymerizable composition according to claim 1, wherein the at least one tertiary amine is N,N-dimethylcyclohexylamine, N,N-dicyclohexyl[[~~bn~~]]ethylamine or mixtures thereof.

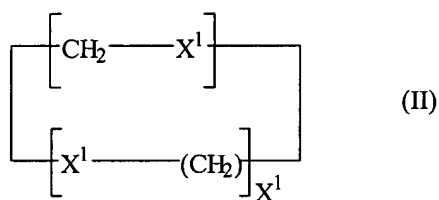
10. (original): Polymerizable composition according to claim 1, wherein the tertiary amine is present in the composition from 0.05 to 5%, based to the total weight of the polymerizable monomers present in the composition.

11. (original): Polymerizable composition according to claim 10, wherein the tertiary amine is present from 0.05 to 2%.

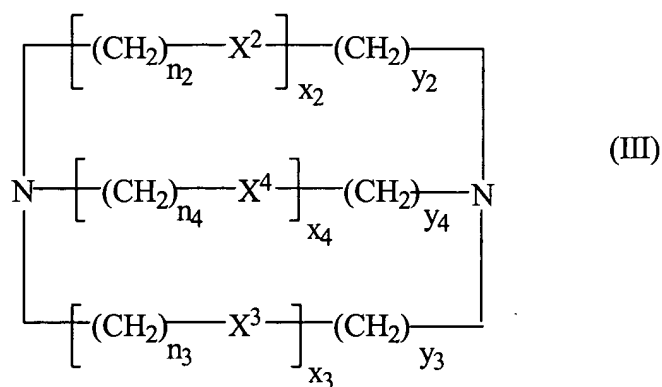
12. (original): Polymerizable composition according to claim 1, further comprising an electro-donor compound enhancing the reactivity of the polymerization reaction.

13. (original): Composition according to claim 12, wherein the electrodonor compound is selected from the group consisting of acetonitrile compounds, amide compounds, sulfones and sulfoxides, trialkylphosphites, nitro compounds, ethyleneglycol ethers, crown ethers and kryptates.

14. (previously presented): Composition according to claim 13, wherein the crown ethers and the kryptates are compounds of formulae :



[[and]] or



wherein X^1 represents O, S or NH, x_1 is an integer from 3 to 6,

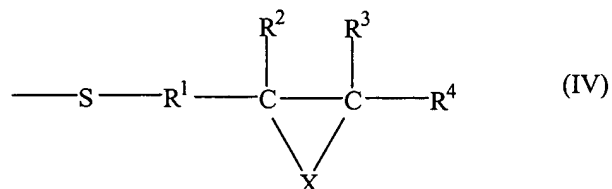
X^2 , X^3 and X^4 represent O or S,

$n_2, n_3, n_4, y_2, y_3, y_4$ are 2 or 3, and

x_2, x_3, x_4 are 2 or 3.

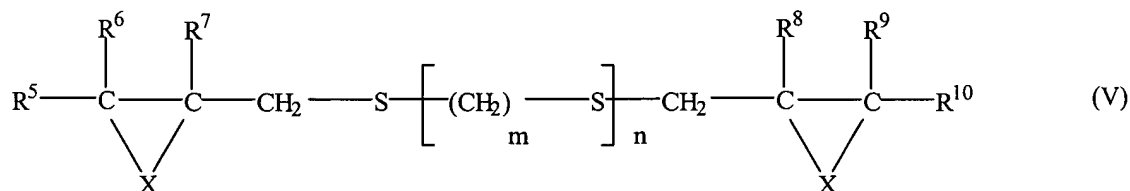
15. (original): Composition according to claim 13, wherein the electro-donor compound represents up to 5% by weight of the total weight of the polymerizable monomers present in the composition.

16. (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the episulfide monomer comprises one or more episulfide structure of formula:



in which R^1 represents a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, R^2, R^3 and R^4 each represents an hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, X represents S or O with the proviso that in the molecule the average number of S represented by X is about 50% of the total number of S and O constituting the three membered ring.

17. (original): Composition of claim 1, wherein the episulfide monomer is a compound of formula:



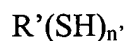
in which $\text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7, \text{R}^8, \text{R}^9$ and R^{10} each represents an hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, X represents S or O with the proviso that, in the molecule, the average number of S represented by X is about 50% or more of the total

number of S and O constituting the three member rings, m represents an integer from 0 to 6 and n represents an integer from 0 to 4.

18. (original): The composition of claim 17, wherein X is S.

19. (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymerizable monomers comprise solely episulfide monomers.

20. (original): The composition according to claim 1, further comprising one or more polythiols of formula :

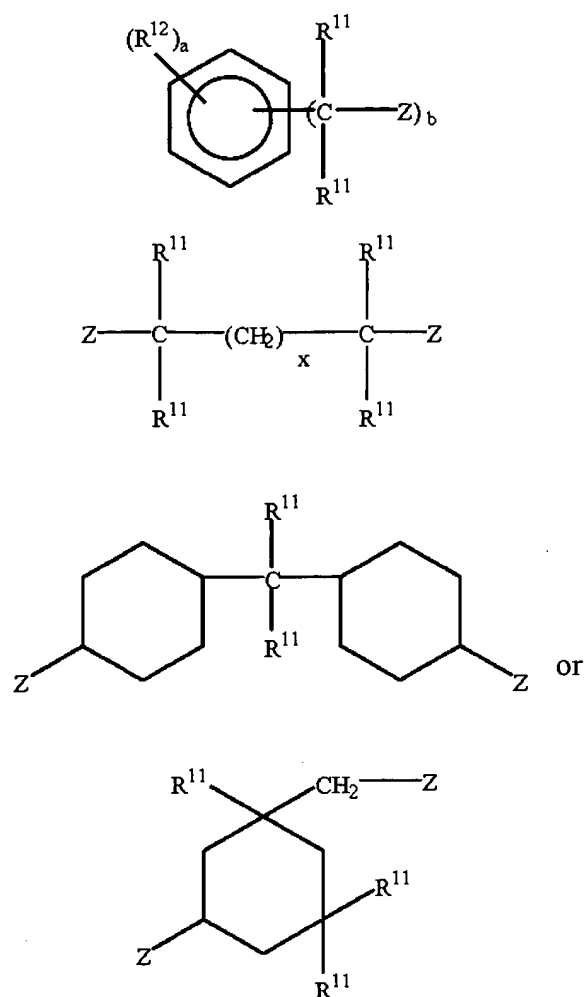


in which n' is an integer from 2 to 6 and R' is an organic group of valency equal to n'.

21. (previously presented): The composition according to claim 20, wherein the polythiol represents up to 30% by weight of the total weight of the polymerizable monomers present in the composition.

22. (original): Composition according to claim 1, further comprising one or more polyiso(thio)cyanate monomers.

23. (previously presented): Composition according to claim 22, wherein the polyiso(thio)cyanate monomer is a compound having the formulae:



wherein:

R^{11} is independently H or C_1 - C_5 alkyl group,

R^{12} is H, an halogen, or a C_1 - C_5 alkyl group,

Z is $-N=C=O$ or $-N=C=S$;

a is an integer ranging from 1 to 4, b is an integer ranging from 2 to 4 and $a + b \leq 6$; and

x is an integer from 1 to 10.

24. (original): Composition according to claim 23, wherein the polyisocyanate monomers are selected from the group consisting of tolylene diisocyanate, phenylene diisocyanate, ethylphenylene diisocyanate, isopropyl phenylene diisocyanate, dimethylphenylene diisocyanate, diethylphenylene diisocyanate, diisopropylphenylene diisocyanate, trimethylbenzyl triisocyanate, xylylene diisocyanate, benzyl

triiso(thio)cyanate, 4,4'-diphenyl methane diiso(thio)cyanate, naphthalene diiso(thio)cyanate, isophorone diiso(thio)cyanate, bis(iso(thio)cyanate methyl) cyclohexane, hexamethylene diiso(thio)cyanate and dicyclohexylmethane diiso(thio)cyanate and mixtures thereof.

25. (previously presented): Composition according to claim 22, wherein the polyiso(thio)cyanate monomer or the mixture thereof represents up to 30% by weight of the total weight of the polymerizable monomers present in the composition.

Claims 26-27 (canceled).

28. (original): Process for making a cast episulfide based resin article comprising:

- preparing a composition as set forth in claim 1;
- filling a mold with the prepared composition;
- heating the filled mold at a first temperature of 50°C or less up to the obtention of a gel;
- thereafter, heating at a second temperature higher than the first temperature up to the obtention of a hard resin; and
- removing the cast article from the mold.

29. (original): The process according to claim 28, wherein the first temperature ranges from 20°C to 50°C.

30. (original): The process according to claim 28, wherein the second temperature ranges from 60 to 90°C.

31. (original): The process according to claim 28, wherein heating at the first temperature lasts for 15 minutes to about 1 hour and heating at the second temperature lasts for about 2 hours.

32. (original): The process according to claim 28, wherein the cast article is an optical article.